

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 SS-20

NSC-07 L-03 H-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 /126 W

----- 119574

R 251122Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9329

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

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USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

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MONTREAL FOR US REP ICAO

GENEVA FOR WALDMANN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, XG, SZ

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: EXCHANGE OF VIEWS RE MAJOR ISSUES AT
FORTHCOMING ICAO ASSEMBLY, MONTREAL, SEPT 24-OCT 16, 1974

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REF: STATE 159881 AND PREVIOUS

1. WALDMANN MET WITH KUENZI AND OTHER SWISS FEDERAL AIR OFFICE OFFICIALS JULY 24 TO DISCUSS US AND SWISS VIEWS ON ICAO ASSEMBLY. SWISS EXPANDED ON VIEWS REPORTED BERN 2042 AS FOLLOWS:

A. POSSIBLE REVISION OF COMPOSITION OF PERMANENT ICAO COUNCIL. ALTHOUGH FEDERAL POLITICAL DEPARTMENT (FOREIGN MINISTRY) STILL DEVELOPING SWISS POSITION, KUENZI EXPRESSED RELUCTANCE SEE ENLARGEMENT OF COUNCIL AND SAID AIR OFFICE WANTS TO AVOID DOMINANCE OF ICAO BY COUNTRIES WITH MINOR AVIATION INTERESTS. MAIN SWISS INTEREST IS TO INSURE THAT COUNCIL IS REPRESENTATIVE OF WHOLE ICAO MEMBERSHIP WHILE SMALL ENOUGH TO BE EFFICIENT BODY, AND BELIEVE DIVISION OF COUNCIL SEATS BY CATEGORIES IS SOUND PRINCIPLE. KUENZI SAID SWISS WOULD FAVOR ROTATION SCHEME AND EXPECT THIS BE DISCUSSED AT ECAC SESSION IN EARLY SEPTEMBER.

B. REEMERGENCE OF MANDATORY ICAO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. FEDERAL POLITICAL DEPARTMENT REVIEWING SWISS POSITION WHICH IS PAST HAS BEEN AGAINST MANDATORY PROGRAM SEPARATE FROM UNDP.

C. ICAO STUDIES AND POSSIBLE ACTION IN REGARD TO AIR FARES AND RATES. SWISS BELIEVE ICAO STAFF INADEQUATE TO BECOME DEEPLY INVOLVED IN FARE QUESTIONS AND DOUBT COST OF LARGER STAFF WOULD PRODUCE SUFFICIENT BENEFITS. SWISS, HOWEVER, DO SEE POSSIBLE ICAO ROLE IN PREPARING PRELIMINARY STUDIES ON UNIFORM STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES FOR FIXING AND APPROVING FARES AND RATES ALONG LINES 1967 ECAC AGREEMENT ON PROCEDURE FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF SCHEDULED AIR TARIFFS. TO THIS END, SWITZERLAND AND SWEDEN CONSIDERING JOINT PROPOSAL FOR PRESENTATION AT ASSEMBLY WHICH WOULD CALL FOR COUNCIL STUDY OF MATTER.

D. HIJACKING. SWISS HAVE NO DIFFICULTY IN ACCEPTING DRAFT ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION OR EFFORTS TO PRESS STATES FOR EXPEDITIOUS RATIFICATION OF EXISTING CONVENTIONS. HOWEVER, THEY DO NOT EXPECT HIJACKING DISCUSSION IN ICAO ASSEMBLY WILL BE VERY PRODUCTIVE. SWISS HAVE RATIFIED TWO OF THREE CONVENTIONS AND EXPECT TO RATIFY MONTREAL CONVENTION NEXT YEAR AFTER DOMESTIC LEGISLATION MODIFIED. KUENZI MADE PRO FORMA OBJECTION TO PRINCIPLE OF UNLIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LATERAL, EXTRA-TERRITORIAL US APPLICATION OF SECURITY REQUIREMENTS FOR FOREIGN AIR CARRIERS. SWISS, HOWEVER, SUPPORT STRONG SECURITY MEASURES AND WOULD LIKE SEE MULTILATERAL AGREEMENT ON SECURITY PROCEDURES.

E. ENVIRONMENT. KUENZI SAID SWITZERLAND SHARES US VIEWS ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS. SWITZERLAND WAS ONE OF FIRST COUNTRIES TO ACT ON AIRCRAFT NOISE. KUENZI DID RAISE QUESTION OF FAA NPRM ON RETROFIT OF AIRCRAFT TO PREVENT

NOISE. AGAIN, SWISS OBJECTED TO UNILATERAL ACTION OF THIS TYPE AND KUENZI SAID THIS WAS MATTER FOR MULTI-LATERAL AGREEMENT, AT LEAST AMONG MOST IMPORTANT AIRCRAFT MANUFACTURING AND/OR OPERATING COUNTRIES. KUENZI ALSO QUESTIONED NEED TO RETROFIT FIRST GENERATION JET AIRCRAFT WHICH WILL BE GOING OUT OF SERVICE IN NEXT FEW YEARS.

2. SWISS DELEGATION TO ICAO ASSEMBLY WILL CONSIST OF FOUR TO FIVE PEOPLE, INCLUDING AIR OFFICE DIRECTOR GULDIMANN (FOR BEGINNING PERIOD); DR. ERNST AEBI, CHIEF, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS SECTION IN AIR OFFICE; WALTER FREI, CHIEF, AIR TRANSPORTATION SECTION; AND ONE OR TWO PERSONS FROM FEDERAL POLITICAL DEPARTMENT. PERCIVAL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, NOISE POLLUTION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, COMMITTEES, ORGANIZATION & MANAGEMENT, INVESTIGATIONS, AIR FARES, ANTIHIJACKING PROCEDURES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BERN02799
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740202-0041
From: BERN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740719/aaaaaqes.tel
Line Count: 130
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 159881 AND PREVIOUS
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 MAR 2002 by collinp0>; APPROVED <14 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR: EXCHANGE OF VIEWS RE MAJOR ISSUES AT FORTHCOMING ICAO ASSEMBLY, MONTREAL, SEPT 24-OCT 16, 1974
TAGS: ETRN, XG, SZ, ICAO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005